

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	Applicati n N .	Applicant(s)	
	09/398,876	HANSMANN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Justin T. Darrow	2132	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this c mmunication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to an amendment after final rejection filed 12/09/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-7,9-14,16-22,24-29,34,35,37,38,40,41 and 43.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 20 September 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachm nt(s)**

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|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</li> <li>3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____</li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br/>of Biological Material</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)</li> <li>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____.</li> <li>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment</li> <li>8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance</li> <li>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.</li> </ol> |
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Art Unit: 2132

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 1-43 have been presented for examination. Claims 1, 14, 28, 35, and 41 have been amended in an amendment filed 10/22/2003. Claims 1, 8, 14, 23, 28, 33, 35, 38, 39, and 41 have been amended in an amendment filed 04/15/2004. Claims 1, 3-5, 9, 11, 14, 16, 20, 24, 28, 34, 35, 37, 38, 40, 41, and 43 have been amended and claims 2, 8, 15, 23, 30-33, 36, 39, and 42 have been canceled in an amendment after final rejection filed 12/09/2004. Claims 1, 3-7, 9-14, 16-22, 24-29, 34, 35, 37, 38, 40, 41, and 43 have been examined.

### ***Priority***

2. Receipt is acknowledged of a paper submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which paper has been placed of record in the file.
3. Acknowledgment is made for the benefit of an earlier filing date of Application No. 99 100 474.8 filed in Europe on 01/12/1999.

### ***Response to Amendment***

4. The proposed amendment after final rejection to the claims filed on 12/09/2004 has been entered in its entirety.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

5. Claims 1, 3-7, 9-14, 16-22, 24-29, 34, 35, 37, 38, 40, 41, and 43 are allowed.
6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Art Unit: 2132

Claims 1, 3-7, and 9-13; and claims 41 and 43 are drawn to a method and program storage device readable by machine tangibly embodying a program of instructions for securely handling an information unit by a first information processing device interoperating with a second secure information processing device, respectively. The closest prior art, Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. (Takashima et al.), European Patent Application Publication No. EP 0 715 242 A1, discloses a similar method and program storage device. However Takashima et al. neither teach nor suggest providing a third key for external authentication and/or release control of the respective information unit. This particular step explicitly recited in independent claims 1 and 41 renders claims 1, 3-7, and 9-13; and 41 and 43, respectively, allowable.

Claims 14, 16-22, and 24-27 are drawn to a system for securely handling an information unit, comprising a first information processing device interoperating with a second secure information processing device. The closest prior art, Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. (Takashima et al.), European Patent Application Publication No. EP 0 715 242 A1, discloses a similar system. However Takashima et al. neither describe nor motivate storage in the first device and/or the second secure device storing at least a third key for external authentication and/or release control of the information unit and processing means processing the third key. This particular feature incorporated in independent claim 14 renders claims 14, 16-22, and 24-27 allowable.

Claims 28, 29, and 34 are drawn to a chip card for securely handling an information unit by interoperating with an information handling terminal device. The closest prior art, Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. (Takashima et al.), European Patent Application Publication No. EP 0 715 242 A1, discloses a similar chip card. However Takashima et al. neither describe nor

Art Unit: 2132

motivate storage storing at least a third key for external authentication and/or release control of the information unit and processing means processing the third key. This particular feature incorporated in independent claim 28 renders claims 28, 29, and 34 allowable.

Claims 35, 37, 38, and 40 are drawn to a chip card accepting device for securely handling an information unit by interoperating with a chip card. The closest prior art, Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. (Takashima et al.), European Patent Application Publication No. EP 0 715 242 A1, discloses a similar chip card accepting device. However Takashima et al. neither describe nor motivate storage storing at least a third key for external authentication and/or release control of the information unit and processing means processing the third key. This particular feature incorporated in independent claim 28 renders claims 28, 29, and 34 allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

*Telephone Inquiry Contacts*

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Justin T. Darrow whose telephone number is (571) 272-3801, and whose electronic mail address is justin.darrow@uspto.gov. The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barrón, Jr., can be reached at (571) 272-3799.

The fax number for Formal or Official faxes to Technology Center 2100 is (703) 872-9306. In order for a formal paper transmitted by fax to be entered into the application file, the paper and/or fax cover sheet must be signed by a representative for the applicant. Faxed formal papers for application file entry, such as amendments adding claims, extensions of time, and statutory disclaimers for which fees must be charged before entry, must be transmitted with an authorization to charge a deposit account to cover such fees. It is also recommended that the cover sheet for the fax of a formal paper have printed **"OFFICIAL FAX"**. Formal papers transmitted by fax usually require three business days for entry into the application file and consideration by the examiner. Formal or Official faxes including amendments after final rejection (37 CFR 1.116) should be submitted to (703) 872-9306 for expedited entry into the application file. It is further recommended that the cover sheet for the fax containing an amendment after final rejection have printed not only **"OFFICIAL FAX"** but also **"AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL"**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

Art Unit: 2132

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2100.

January 6, 2004



**JUSTIN T. DARROW  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100**